ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 1 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

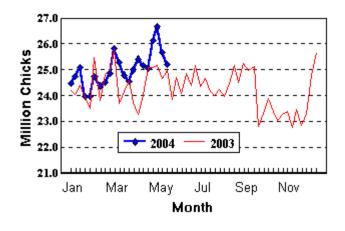
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 25.2 million during the week ending May 22, 2004. Placements were up1 percent from both the comparable week in 2003, but down 2 percent from the revised previous week, and included 3.0 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through May 22, 2004 were 526.0 million, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 26.3 million, up 3 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and down slightly from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.7 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.7 percent.

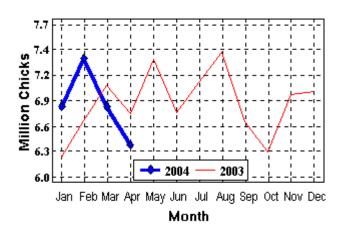
Arkansas hatcheries **set** 32.2 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending May 22, 2004, up 4 percent from the same period last year, and up 2 percent from the previous week.

Leading breeders in the **UNITED STATES** placed 6.4 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during April 2004, down 5 percent from April 2003.

ARKANSAS BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS BY WEEK, 2003- 2004



U.S. BROILER-TYPE PULLET CHICKS PLACED FOR DOMESTIC HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS



NET PLACEMENTS IN ARKANSAS							
Week	Yea	%					
Ending	2003	2003 2004					
	1,000						
Apr. 17	24,054	25,204	105				
Apr. 24	25,096	25,051	100				
May 1	25,120	26,143	104				
May 8	25,204	26,707	106				
May 15	24,690	25,672	104				
May 22	24,987	25,235	101				

U.S. PULLET CHICKS PLACED									
	Ye	%							
Month	2002-2003	2002-2003 2003-2004							
	1,000								
Nov.	6,938	6,946	100						
Dec.	6,475	6,978	108						
Jan.	6,269	6,811	109						
Feb.	6,659	7,340	110						
Mar.	7,038	6,815	97						
Apr.	6,735	6,402	95						

BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2004

	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKSPLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending			1/		Week Ending				l V		
STATE	01-May	08-May	15-May	22-May	%	17-Apr	24-Apr	01-May	08-May	15-May	22-May	%
Alabama	30,840 *	30,556	30,590	30,879	106	21,798	21,935	22,043	22,735	21,805	22,568	105
ARKANSAS	31,803	31,961	31,494	32,157	104	25,204	25,051	26,143	26,707	25,672 *	25,235	101
Delaware	3,741	3,740	3,857	3,871	99	4,959	5,051	4,537	4,686	4 <i>5</i> 11 *	5,286	109
Florida	1,389 *	1,348	1,364	1,389	105	1,502	1,416	1,461	1,495	1,640	1,526	81
Georgia	32,862	32,369	32,994 *	33,121	102	26,283	26,245	27,041	26,700	26,986 *	26,553	105
Kentucky	7,138 *	7,033	* 7,121 *	7,129	108	5,894	6,002	5,964 *	6,141 *	6,074 *	6,205	104
Louisiana	3,998	4,014	3,998	3,892	98	3,414	3,796	3,725	4,070	3,744	3,813	100
Maryland	8,887	8,901	8,900	8,990	92	5,897	5,879	6,238	5,689	6,439 *	4,937	77
Mississippi	19,367	19,301	19,393	19,363	99	16,741	17 <i>,3</i> 17	16,924	16,915	16,807	16,785	102
N. Carolina	18,473 *	19,006	18,905	18,488	97	15,076	14,916	15,498	15,200	15,013	15,161	100
Oklahoma	6,605	6,588	6,684 *	6,500	99	5,261	5,650	4,652	3,929	5,001	5,680	118
Pennsylvania	3,688	3,921	3,948 *	3,648	94	2,626	2,722	2,775	2,902	2,874 *	2,702	101
S. Carolina	3,759	3,760	3,774	3,781	76	4,375	4,006	3,723	4,352	3,863	3,954	103
Texas	15,324	15,475	15,463	15,274	101	12,672	12,850	12,826	12,858	12,769	12,876	102
Virginia	6,642	6,653	6,644	6,675	101	5,236	5,197	5,210	5,236	5,609	5,731	104
CA,MO,TN,WV	1 <u>7,993</u>	<u>18,066</u>	<u> 17,911</u>	<u>17,932</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>16,316</u>	15 <u>,459</u> _	<u> 16,416</u>	<u>14,981 </u>	15 <u>,647</u> *	<u>15,814</u>	<u>_9</u> 6.
Total 2004	212,509 *	212,692	* 213,040 *	213,089		173,254	173,492	175,176 *	174 <i>,5</i> 96 *	174,454 *	174,826	
<u>To</u> ta <u>l 200</u> 3	<u>209,166</u>	<u>20</u> 6 <u>,679</u>	<u>210,125</u>	<u>211,168</u>		168,183	<u>172,080</u>	<u>172,351</u>	1 <u>71,8</u> 30_	_17 <u>0,953</u> _	<u>17</u> 2 <u>,110</u>	
%Prev. Year Approximate Mad	102 ceting Date	103 2004	101	101		103 05-Jun	101 12-Jun	102 19-Jun	102 26-Jun	102 03-Jul	102 10-Jul	

^{*} Revised. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 213 million eggs during the week ending May 22, 2004. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 175 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 22, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through May 22, 2004 were 3.58 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.